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Crime prevention and criminal justice

Technical assistance for implementing the international conventions and protocols relating to terrorism

Note by the Secretariat

By its resolution 2007/18 of 26 July 2007, the Economic and Social Council recommended to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

"Technical assistance for implementing the international conventions and protocols relating to terrorism

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* all General Assembly and Security Council resolutions related to technical assistance in countering terrorism,

"*Stressing* the essential need to strengthen international, regional and subregional cooperation to prevent and suppress effectively terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, committed by whomever, whenever and for whatever purposes, in particular by enhancing the national capacity of Member States through the provision of technical assistance,

"*Reaffirming* all aspects of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 60/288 of 8 September 2006,

"*Acknowledging* that, in the Strategy, Member States resolved to implement all relevant General Assembly and Security Council resolutions related to terrorism,

"*Stressing* the importance of the institutionalization of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force within the Secretariat in order to ensure overall coordination and coherence of the counter-terrorism efforts of the

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United Nations system, with the aim of providing technical assistance to Member States,

"*Mindful* that, in the Strategy, Member States encouraged the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, including its Terrorism Prevention Branch, to enhance, in close consultation with the Counter-Terrorism Committee and its Executive Directorate, its provision of technical assistance to States, upon request, to facilitate the implementation of the international conventions and protocols related to the prevention and suppression of terrorism and relevant United Nations resolutions,

"*Bearing in mind* that, in the Strategy, Member States encouraged the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the International Criminal Police Organization to enhance cooperation with States to help them to comply fully with international norms and obligations to combat money-laundering and the financing of terrorism,

"*Bearing in mind also* that in the Strategy, Member States encouraged relevant regional and subregional organizations to create or strengthen counter-terrorism mechanisms or centres and encouraged, where consistent with its existing mandate, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in cooperation with the Counter-Terrorism Committee and its Executive Directorate, to facilitate the provision of cooperation and assistance to that end,

"*Recalling* its resolution 61/181 of 20 December 2006, in which it invited all States to increase their support to the operational activities of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme through voluntary contributions to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund or through voluntary contributions in direct support of such activities,

"*Recalling also* that the Security Council, in its resolution 1535 (2004) of 26 March 2004, recognized that visits by the Counter-Terrorism Committee to States, with the consent of the States concerned, to monitor the implementation of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) of 28 September 2001 should be conducted, when appropriate, in close cooperation with relevant international, regional and subregional organizations and other United Nations bodies, including the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in particular with its Terrorism Prevention Branch, taking special care of the assistance that might be available to address States' needs,

"*Expressing its appreciation* for the efforts recently undertaken by the Terrorism Prevention Branch of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to maximize the efficiency of its technical assistance by providing it in the official languages of the United Nations,

"*Noting with appreciation* initiatives to facilitate the implementation of the Strategy, such as the Symposium on Advancing the Implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, held in Vienna on 17 and 18 May 2007 and organized by the Government of Austria, in cooperation with the Executive Office of the Secretary-General and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,

"1. *Commends* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, including its Terrorism Prevention Branch, for providing, in close consultation with the Counter-Terrorism Committee and its Executive Directorate, technical assistance to States, upon request, to facilitate the implementation of the international conventions and protocols relating to the prevention and suppression of terrorism and relevant United Nations resolutions, and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, to continue its efforts in that regard;

"2. *Urges* Member States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties without delay to the existing international conventions and protocols relating to terrorism, and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, to provide legislative assistance to Member States, upon request, and to facilitate the implementation of those instruments;

"3. *Also urges* Member States to strengthen international cooperation, to the greatest extent possible, in order to prevent and suppress terrorism, including, when necessary, by entering into bilateral treaties on extradition and mutual legal assistance, within the framework of the international conventions and protocols relating to terrorism and relevant United Nations resolutions, and in accordance with international law, including the Charter of the United Nations, and to ensure adequate training of all relevant personnel in executing international cooperation, and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, to provide assistance to Member States, upon request, to that end;

"4. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, to intensify its efforts to provide Member States with technical assistance, upon request, to strengthen international cooperation in preventing and suppressing terrorism by facilitating the implementation of the international conventions and protocols relating to terrorism, in particular by training criminal justice officials on the implementation of those international instruments, such as through specialized training sessions and specialized technical tools and publications, in close coordination with the Counter-Terrorism Committee and its Executive Directorate and the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force;

"5. *Recognizes* the importance of the development and maintenance of fair and effective criminal justice systems, including the humane treatment of all those in pretrial and correctional facilities, in accordance with applicable international law as a fundamental basis of any strategy to counter terrorism, and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, whenever appropriate, to take into account in its technical assistance programme to counter terrorism the elements necessary for building national capacity in order to strengthen criminal justice systems and the rule of law;

"6. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in coordination with the Counter-Terrorism Committee and its Executive Directorate, to continue to work with international organizations and relevant entities of the United Nations system, as well as with regional and subregional organizations, in the delivery of technical assistance, whenever appropriate

and within its mandate, specifically to enhance legal cooperation, good practices and legal training in the area of counter-terrorism;

"7. *Expresses its appreciation* to all Member States that have supported the technical assistance activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, including through financial contributions, and invites all Member States to consider making additional voluntary financial contributions, as well as providing in-kind support, especially in view of the need for enhanced and effective delivery of technical assistance to assist Member States with the implementation of relevant provisions of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy;[1]

"8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime with sufficient resources for its activities, including in the area of counter-terrorism, within its mandate, for assisting Member States in the implementation of the strategy for the period 2008-2011 for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

"9. *Requests* the Executive Director to report on expenditure for terrorism prevention activities in the context of the consolidated budget for the biennium 2008-2009 for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, at the reconvened eighteenth session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice;

"10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to it at its sixty-third session a written report on the implementation of the present resolution."

[1] Resolution 60/288.